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Cratægus, L. At least six or eight species are found in Missouri.

Œnothera sinuata, L , I have only found on sandy slopes in Vernon.

Œ. serrulata, Nutt. Found on "Bluff" hillsides in Atchison county.

Œnothera speciosa, Nutt. This showy plant is one of our handsomest when in bloom with its large pure white blossoms, but is only found on the western border of Missouri where it ranges from Jackson county southwardly.

Œnothera Missouriensis, Sims. This plant with its large handsome bright yellow corolla I have found on rocky slopes on prairies in Bates, and also in Green and Lawrence counties.

Ribes Cynosbati, L. A gooseberry with fruit armed with long prickles like a burr have found on rocky bluffs of Missouri, in Gasconade county, where there was but little soil.

Sedum stenopetalum, Pursh. Have only found this on cherty glades at Grand Falls› Newton county.

Hamamelis Virginica, L. Only in southeast Missouri where it is abundant.

Aralia spinosa, L. Hercules' club. Only found in southeast Missouri, ranging from Madison county southward. It is commonly called "Tear blanket."

Cornus Florida, L. Flowering dogwood. Not found much further west than Jefferson City. Common eastwardly on dry hills. Further west is not found north of Jasper county. In Northeast Missouri is rarely found west of the extreme eastern counties.

Cornus circinata, L., Her. Round leaved dogwood. Found only in eastern Missouri on rich moist hillsides.

Liquidambar Styraciflua, L. Sweet Gum. Common in Southeast Missouri, occurring from Madison county southwardly.

Nyssa multiflora, Wang. Black Gum. Common in Southeast Missouri. A few trees only have been seen in Maries county. It does not occur in Western or Northern Missouri. In Southern Illinois it is found no further north than the southern part of Fayette county. *Nyssa multiflora*, Wang., Tupelo or Sour Gum, and *N. uniflora*, Walt., the large Tupelo, are both said to abound in the swamps of Southeast Missouri.

Viburnum dentatum, L. Arrow wood. Is occasionally found in Monroe and Shelby counties, but neither in Northwest nor Southwest Missouri.

Fedia radiata, Michx. Bates county and southwardly.

MONOTROPA UNIFLORA, L.—In the April number of the BOTANICAL GAZETTE I noticed with considerable surprise a statement made by Mr. A. H. Young, of LaFayette, Ind., that *Monotropa uniflora*, L., or Indian Pipe, Ice-plant, Fit-plant so-called, possessed poisonous properties somewhat resembling the effects of *Rhus Toxicodendron*, L. Now this is certainly news to me, and which cannot fail to interest many others engaged in the study of Medical Botany. I am constrained to say, and an experience of twenty-three years of closest attention to this subject has verified my conclusions, that *Monotropa uniflora* is not possessed of any toxic properties, neither in its outward or inward application of the human system. It is a remedy of some repute with the Eclectic School of Medicine, and in "King's American Dispensatory" and "Howard's Botanic Medicine," is very highly recommended for overcoming nervous irritability, epilepsy, chorea, etc., when used in large doses inwardly of course, and for ophthalmic as well as other inflamations of delicate mucous surfaces outwardly applied, either in its fresh state or the preserved juice. I have myself used it very much in ordinary cases of inflamed eyes, both chronic and acute, and have never seen or even before heard any evil effects following the most indiscriminate use. Have applied it to the eyes of infants when only three days old, in *Ophthalmia purulenta infantum*, as well as in old age in every variety of so-called constitutions, and even where not successfully employed, no ill effects have ever been observed thereafter.

I always keep on hand a quantity of this medicinal agent—in the form of a tincture or dried plant, and when I can obtain enough of it, the expressed juice. I will merely mention a case of ophthalmia cured incidentally by *Monotropa uniflora.* Fourteen years ago, it was in the early part of July, I went woodcock-shooting with two friends, near Hackensack, N. J., and while taking some luncheon in a beech grove along the course of Saddle River, found a large patch of ground literally covered with *Monotropa uniflora* in full bloom. I have never met with such another "find" of this plant in all of my frequent rambles and excursions made in search of it. It covered a space some five feet wide by nine feet long, a beautiful sight of snow-white stems and nodding flowers. Being in need of some just then, I proceeded to fill my game-bag, and to the question, what it was used for, answered "good for sore eyes," little thinking that the party addressed was suffering from a chronic inflamation of the eye lids, the edges of which had a very fiery red appearance. No sooner said, than he proceeded to take in his game-bag a supply also, and he made a very good use of it, as I ascertained afterwards. His inflamed lids were entirely cured in four weeks' time and has had no further trouble since, by applying the fresh juice of the stems he obtained while it lasted.

Now in view of all this, and coupling it with the fact, that in physical properties the *Monotropa* abounds in a mucilaginous and astringent property, either of which are quite innocuous, may it not have been possible that the young lady in question, who was supposed to have been poisoned by *Monotropa uniflora*, had come in contact with some of the far-spreading roots of *Rhus Toxicodendron*, in the attempt to lift or pluck the stem as close to the ground as possible? I have been poisoned in just such a manner myself, while collecting *Monotropa* as well as other plants. Now I have a wholesome fear of *Poison Rhus*, and manage to get poisoned with it anyhow several times every year—hardly ever by its leaves which I recognize at a long distance, never by its exhalations, but generally by coming in contact with its twining stems, or roots and fibrils so difficult to distinguish when underground or covered by decayed vegetable matter. The eruption following contact with *Poison Rhus*, when not accompanied by any swelling, only lasts a few days, just like that case referred to. I have often inoculated myself and others with *Poison Rhus* in order to antidote its disagreeable effects with different remedies, and have seen its action in every conceivable appearance.

But I am digressing from my subject. May it not have been possible that a few fibrils of *Rhus* were adherent to the scales or bracts of the stem, or passing through the matted fibrous rootlets of the *Monotropa*, which in handling could not have been avoided of being touched? May that lady not, therefore, have been an unsuspecting victim to the lurking poison of *Rhus Toxicodendron*?—RICHARD E. KUNZE, M. D.

FERNS OF KENTUCKY.—I have received from Mr. John Williamson, of Louisville, Ky., who is preparing a "Hand-Book" of the native ferns of that State, some etchings that have given to me, and others, so much pleasure, and which augur so well for the success of his work, that I am tempted to offer this notice in advance of publication.

These etchings are most charmingly and faithfully executed, and the graceful and successful management of the larger species in adapting them to the limited space they will occupy in the plates shows that Mr. Williamson possesses the true artistic feeling, and enters fully into the poetic nature of the beautiful plants that he is aiming to describe and portray.

The small species—especially *Trichomanes radicans*—have all the ease and natural grace of the ferns themselves, while the extra plates giving the mode of the fructification of each genus are very clearly and strongly depicted, and materially increase the value of the work as a whole.